

SPECIAL ARTICLES

STATE HUMANE POUND ACT

"All technicalities aside, the so-called 'State Humane Pound Act' is aimed against animal experimentation by those who have twice failed in recent years to pass similar state-wide legislation. We are confident that if the citizens of California understand the menace to health and safety that is in this bill they will overwhelmingly defeat it."

This appeal to the voters to defeat Proposition No. 2 on the November 8 ballot has just been issued by Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, President of Stanford University and also President of the California Society for the Promotion of Medical Research, which is conducting the campaign against the measure.

Doctor Wilbur calls attention to the fact that a recent vote of the Commonwealth Club of California, taken after a thorough investigation of the legal effects if the "Humane Pound Act" is adopted, resulted in sixty-five votes against the measure and only five for it. Nearly 160 lay, scientific and medical associations have to date gone on record against the initiative.

"Some confusion has been caused," continues Doctor Wilbur, "by the efforts of the proponents of this measure to show that it is practically harmless; but such is not the case. It will hold back the advance of medicine and the relief of human suffering.

"California can be proud of the great research work done by its major institutions. California must become a world center of research in the fields of hygiene, public health, and medicine. Any effort to handicap those who are working in our laboratories or who are manufacturing sera or vaccines for humanity or for our horses, dogs, cattle, sheep, hogs, and chickens, should be promptly defeated.

"Our present laws give full protection against cruelty or abuse that all of us dog-owners demand. The 'Humane Pound Act,' is a long step in the direction of harming medical research and, for the sake of every man, woman and child in California, it should be soundly defeated at the polls."

"MARCH OF LIFE" EXHIBIT FOR SAN FRANCISCO FAIR

Emphasizing the brighter side of medicine, the cure and prevention of disease, the University of California Medical School's exhibit at the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition will give visual proof of the steady progress of the healing arts. In a sixteen-unit display, now being assembled and installed under the direction of Dr. Karl F. Meyer, Director of the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, and Dr. Langley Porter, Dean of the University's Medical School, the story of the accomplishments of medical science will be told.

The first unit of the display will be titled "The March of Life" with a series of thirty-five transparencies showing the history of the individual from the prenatal period to old age, with the various bodily changes involved. The second unit will contain a key index and general descriptive panel which will describe the whole exhibit in detail. The third unit will deal with the animal kingdom, showing how animals are both the friend and foe of man. This will consist of a large painting, eleven feet wide and seven feet high, illuminated from behind, and emphasizing particularly the processes of disease transmission. The fourth unit will show the prenatal period of human life. The fifth, sixth, and seventh will deal with the diseases of children and their prevention, while the eighth will compare growth changes through childhood to adolescence. The ninth will depict the healing mysteries and near miracles of surgery, while the tenth and eleventh will feature the place of the physician in the scheme of life and some of the diseases that he has conquered.

The twelfth unit will be given over to a display on arthritis, illustrated by colored lantern slides. The thirteenth will deal with the right and the wrong way of arriving at old age. The fourteenth will show the percentage shifts in population between people of various ages. The fifteenth will be a display covering nutrition, both good and bad, while the sixteenth will demonstrate the services rendered by the University's medical center to its own students.

The unit showing the prenatal period will be featured by a display of human embryos and other material which will carry the spectator through a large segment of the embryonic history of man. In the displays devoted to child health will be shown how children may be susceptible to various protein substances, to cause various allergies, and how rickets and other diseases of young children are caused. The treatment and cure of these conditions will be closely outlined. Another unit in this group will detail the health education of children, while still another will show, through a series of relief models, the changes of development of boys and girls from eight years to sixteen years.

The place of the physician in the scheme of life will be shown by another great painting, eleven feet high by seven feet wide. This will detail how he steps from the portals of the Medical Center to stand between the people and the diseases that beset them, as one member of a great army of medical men. Another contribution of the Department of Medicine will show in striking pictorial form how incorrect posture and related causes may bring on ailments harmful to the heart and circulatory system and how these may be prevented.

Of particular interest will be the large unit showing the two methods of arriving at old age. This will be another large painting showing what happens to the person who disregards health rules and lets his minor ailments, so-called, run their course, and what happens to the person who makes an effort to keep himself fit. The contrast will be sharpened with a pictured display of what happens to a plot of land that is being subjected to the processes of erosion and neglect as compared to a plot which is carefully cultivated and cared for.

The panel dealing with the animal kingdom is being prepared by the Hooper Foundation, under the direction of Doctor Meyer. The embryo display is under the direction of Dr. William C. Deamer, assistant professor of pediatrics, and Dr. John B. Saunders, associate professor of anatomy. Dr. Francis S. Smyth, professor of pediatrics, has charge of the displays on child care in illness. The display on the health education of children is under the direction of Dr. Edna W. Bailey, associate professor of education. Surgery, which will stress particularly the function of the thyroid gland and the cause and correction of ailments arising from it, will be directed in its display by Dr. H. Glenn Bell, associate professor of surgery. The medical panels will be directed by Dr. Stacy R. Mettler, assistant professor of medicine, the arthritis display under the direction of Dr. James F. Rinehart, associate professor of pathology. Dr. Lionel S. Schmitt, associate professor of preventive medicine, and Dr. Albert E. Larsen, instructor in medicine, have charge of the display showing the two ways of arriving at old age. The nutrition display, which will include a demonstration of foods and eating practices designed to maintain the human body in health, will be under the direction of Dr. Guy S. Millberry, dean of the College of Dentistry, and Dr. Nina Simmonds, lecturer in medicine. In addition, Doctor Millberry will aid in directing the other exhibits showing the relation of dentistry to public and private health.

The ambitious effort of the medical center is occupying the attention of a number of members of the medical profession and of artists and artisans, and every effort is being made to make it a complete picture of medical, surgical and health practices, with the last named being emphasized particularly.